

### Our Mission

*The Department of Correction shall protect the public, protect staff, and provide safe, secure and humane supervision of offenders with opportunities that support successful community reintegration.*

## From the Commissioner



I can say now that it was worth the wait. I am truly honored and humbled by Governor Dannel P. Malloy's decision to reappoint me as the Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Correction. I knew very shortly after returning to this agency, where I had served previously for 21 years, that this is my home, despite very gratifying work elsewhere in state government. I was motivated by the incredible and progressive change that I found upon my return. As I have said this is not the agency that I left. There were achievements and innovations that not only make us the best in the country but which also made clear that we can go even further, building upon our current success. I want to make very clear, that our accomplishments and my main reason for wanting to stay are because of you. I am extremely privileged to have the best correctional staff in the country, which daily insures that our facilities are safe, secure and orderly and that the citizens of our great state are protected. I never take for granted that a correctional agency, free from major incidents is not something that we are lucky to have occur.

see **Commissioner Appointed** /page 3

## A Smaller & Smarter Prison System

Commissioner Leo Arnone and the administration of Governor Dannel P. Malloy have begun to roll out a vision of a leaner state prison system that reserves costly prison beds for those violent, repeat offenders who present a risk to the citizens of the State of Connecticut. A number of new initiatives, as well as some that have been discussed for years, would deal with other, nonviolent, low-level offenders in a way that still preserves public safety, but does so in a more cost-effective fashion. Among those proposals is to take many of those charged with drunk driving out of the state prison system and instead place them under house arrest and supervise them through electronic monitoring. Secondly, the number of pre-trial offenders awaiting trial in our jails would be reduced through a new Intensive Pre-Trial Probation Program, administered by the Judicial Branch's Court Support Services Division.

see **Smarter System** /page 6

March 3, 2011

through

April 1, 2011

Distributed bi-monthly  
to 6,200 staff  
and via the Internet  
throughout Connecticut  
and the nation

by the

Department of Correction  
24 Wolcott Hill Road  
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor

Leo C. Arnone  
Commissioner

Web address:  
[www.ct.gov/doc](http://www.ct.gov/doc)

Public Information  
Office telephone:  
(860) 692-7780  
Fax: (860) 692-7783

## New Beginnings

The graduation ceremony of Pre-Service Class 248 held March 8, at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development could be categorized as one filled with new beginnings. Most obviously, the ceremony marked the beginning of new careers for 77 correctional staff members that completed the ten weeks of training. In addition, it marked the first time that newly elected Governor Dannel P. Malloy attended a Pre-Service Graduation Ceremony. Of equal importance to the Agency, was that the oath was administered to the graduates by the newly reappointed Commissioner of the Department of Correction, Leo C. Arnone.

Also addressing the class was the new State Comptroller Kevin Lembo, who ran for the seat vacated by Nancy Wyman when she chose to run for Lieutenant Governor.

Addressing the audience, Governor Malloy spoke of how the more he learns about the Department of Correction, the more impressed he is. He also spoke of the difficult financial situation that the state was in. However, Malloy did promise those gathered that, “at no time will the fate of the Correction Department, its officers or any of their loved ones be far from my thoughts.”

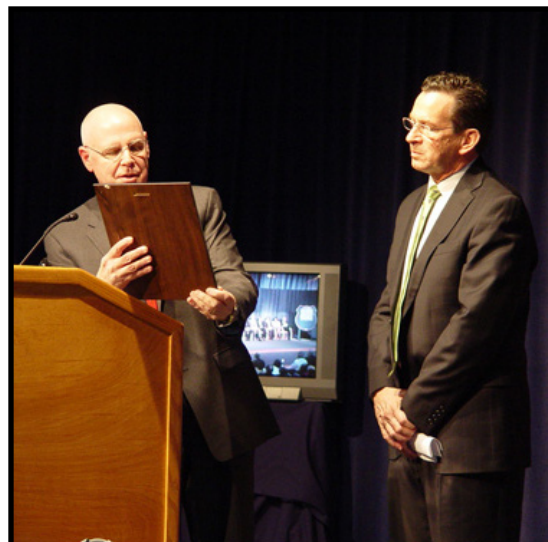
Shortly after his remarks, Governor Malloy, bowing to the pressures of a hectic schedule, was escorted from the building by the department’s Honor Guard. With his departure the focus of the ceremony turned to the presentation of the certificates and badges, and yet another new addition to the proceedings – a large badge-shaped stand, upon which all the badges for the graduates were displayed (*see story on page 3*).

Correction Officer Michael Nardone was the recipient of the “Highest Scholastic Achievement Award,” for Class 248 with a final grade average of 98.67.

The class also recognized Lieutenant Russell Taylor as its outstanding instructor, and retired Department of Correction Training Specialist Raymond Filip as the recipient of the Victor E. Harris, Jr. award.

The Victor E. Harris, Jr. award, named for a deceased officer whose enthusiastic dedication and commitment to correctional education and training still lives on in the memory of D.O.C. staff. Mr. Filip epitomizes commitment to correctional education by volunteering his time to instruct pre-service classes.

With a benediction from Director of Religious Services the Reverend Anthony Bruno, the new graduates exited the auditorium to begin their new careers.



**Commissioner Leo C. Arnone presents Governor Dannel P. Malloy with a plaque of appreciation for attending the Pre-Service Graduation of Class 248.**



**Class 248 awaits the arrival of Governor Dannel P. Malloy.**

## Arnone Appointed from page 1

It happens because of a staff that works hard every day and is never complacent, even about the little things that can quickly become something big in our world. A reporter asked me upon my reappointment what I had accomplished in the six months since I returned to the agency. Here's what I told him. First, we are managing the size of our inmate population to the point where the normal, seasonal spike that we experience every year in February, has not occurred. We are now in the 17,700 range which is a 10 year low for the agency. Don't forget that before 2004, our population had increased continuously for more than 20 years. And particularly in this budget challenged time, the size of the inmate population determines staffing, which determines our spending. This has been no easy task and is something we should be very proud of. I also told the reporter that we, after nearly five years of research and planning, had finally gotten the state to fund our new RT system. The State Bond Commission recently approved \$15-million to replace the current data base which is more than 30 years old. It's written in a computer language no one uses anymore, has very limited capabilities for data analysis and most importantly, it is a stand-alone system which the rest of the state's criminal justice community has only limited access to. So for example, an FBI agent, working on a terrorism case would likely have to have an inmate's paper file, located, duplicated and delivered to him, as opposed to clicking into our database which will be part of the state's comprehensive criminal justice data base. Lastly, I told the reporter we had finally gotten rid of beepers and equipped the agency's managers and parole officers with Blackberrys at no extra expense. The result is an alert system, tied into the state's system that ensures notification in an emergency. Parole officers with a sex offender case load can now receive alerts from the GPS tracking provider directly on their Blackberrys. All in all, not a bad first six months. As I told the Governor, I am confident that this is just the beginning. So again, I look forward to working with you as Commissioner of a correctional agency, that we can all take PRIDE in.

## Impressive Display

Those in attendance at the recent graduation of Pre-Service Class 248 at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development could not help but notice the large badge-shaped board, displaying all the silver badges about to be received by the graduating class. The board was constructed in Vocational Instructor Scott Pierce's Carpentry class at the Enfield Correctional Institution.



**Deputy Commissioner James Dzurenda removes a badge from the new display.**

Almost as impressive as the finished product, is the fact that the display was constructed from an old broken chalk board, scrap wood, and the wheels off a broken office chair. When filled, the board will hold up to 156 badges for the new correctional staff and will be on display at each graduation ceremony.

By salvaging old materials, Vocational Instructor Pierce was able to impart valuable lessons to the students about recycling materials, stripping and refinishing wood, and cost saving methods in order to make something new at little to no cost.

The project was initiated and supported by Maloney's Acting Directors Jose Feliciano, Tracey Butler, and Training Officer Theodore Angelakopoulos.



## Brooklyn CI Receives Dove

The staff of the Brooklyn Correctional Institution were the recipients of the 2010 Dove Award for its work with inmates and domestic violence. The Dove Award, given by the Center for Youth Leadership, is presented to the person or organization that has done the most in the past year to promote social justice on behalf of immigrants, victims of human trafficking and/or victims of teen dating-domestic violence. Warden Valerie Light received the award on behalf of the facility at an award ceremony held in January at B. McMahon High School in Norwalk.



**Brooklyn CI's Warden Valerie Light, Secretary II Louise Downer, and Counselor Linda Trahan display the Dove Award.**

The Center for Youth Leadership is the largest youth activism organization in Connecticut, and one of the largest in the tri-state area. Members address child abuse, human trafficking, teen dating violence and the rights of immigrants through grant making, public awareness campaigns, volunteer programs and social change campaigns.

"The selection process, although exciting for our members, is never easy," said Roberto Ceja of the Center for Youth Leadership, "because the candidates are all so good. We could not be happier with this year's recipients."

The Brooklyn Cares Program, through collection of inmate funds at the institution's canteen, has been able to support various outreach programs within the community. Recently, the Brooklyn Cares Program funded the publication of 2000 laminated cards that direct law enforcement officers as to what information should be obtained to successfully arrest and prosecute domestic violence cases.

## Around the Cell Block



**Illinois** – After two decades of debate about the risk of executing an innocent person, Illinois abolished the death penalty on March 9, 2011. Governor Pat Quinn also commuted the sentences of all 15 men on death row. They will now serve life in prison with no hope of parole.

**Wisconsin** – The Waukesha Ordinance & License Committee recently approved amending the city's sex offender residency ordinance to prevent the Wisconsin Department of Correction from placing registered sex offenders in the city after their release from prison unless they were a permanent resident of the city at the time of their offense. A permanent resident is defined as someone who has lived in the city for 14 days or more.

**Total  
Supervised  
Population  
on  
April 1, 2011  
22,399  
On April 1, 2010  
the population was  
23,022**

## Did You Know?



*"Did You Know" is an informational column written by the Facilities Management and Engineering Services Unit, aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This article was written by Plant Facilities Engineer I, Sam Kotsch. If you have any questions or comments, he can be reached at (203) 806-2664. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at (860) 692-7554.*

## Four Keys to a Successful Bird Feeding Program

There are four key steps necessary to starting and maintaining a successful bird feeding program: the right food, the right feeders, the right location, and the availability of water for drinking and bathing.

Birds, like people, enjoy different types of food. First research the food needs for the type of birds you wish to attract. Then keep your feeders filled on a regular basis. This will ensure that birds will keep coming back for more.

Feeders come in several varieties, but generally speaking there are three main types of birdfeeders: platform feeders, hopper feeders, and tube feeders. Platform feeders are the simplest birdfeeder designs available. They are open trays that can be filled with seeds, nuts, scraps or other foods that all birds can access. Platform feeders are available as freestanding units or hanging designs. They can also be made from many unique materials, such as an old tray table, dry bird bath, wooden spool table or a thick upright log. A hopper birdfeeder has a central reservoir that dispenses food to a feeding tray as birds eat. This is convenient because the feeder can be refilled less frequently without running out of seed but the unused seed is sheltered from wind and moisture. Hopper feeders are available in a range of sizes and styles, from simple basic feeders to elaborately decorative models.



**A Platform Bird Feeder**

Freestanding feeders can be attached to a pole while most styles can be hung from hooks or branches. Tube feeders are specialized hopper feeder designs used primarily for finches and small songbirds. Instead of dispensing seed into a tray, the tube has feeding ports that allow birds to feed directly from the reservoir. Tube feeders are most frequently hung from branches or hooks. Simpler models include mesh and sock feeders but they are not as sturdy and will need to be replaced regularly.

It is a good idea to have two to three different types of feeders available to accommodate different types of seeds and different feeding habits of birds. Hopper and tube feeders (with large

holes) are better for Sunflower seed, Safflower seed, peanuts and blends. Finch feeders and tubes (with small holes) are better for Nyjer seed or Finch food. Platform feeders will accommodate ground feeding birds such as cardinals, doves, blue jays and sparrows.

Placement of your bird feeders can also increase your bird feeding success. Place feeders near trees or shrubs for protection and shelter from harsh weather and predators. Birds usually find their food by sight so place feeders in a visible location near where birds frequent.

Water is the final essential ingredient in your successful bird feeding program. All birds need water for drinking and bathing. Water should be provided in a bird bath or a shallow container 2-3 inches deep. Adding bird baths to your feeding areas will attract all types of birds, even insect eaters will stop by for a quick drink or bath.

It may take time for birds to find new feeders, but once established and maintained, you will enjoy years of bird feeding and watching.

## Manson Scholarship Breakfast 2010

With Mrs. Carolyn Manson looking on during the annual John R. Manson Scholarship Breakfast held March 7, at Central Office's Café 24, Deputy Commissioner James Dzurenda was pleased to award Dante Burns-Capuano as the recipient of the 2010 award. Although the award amount varies from year to year, depending in large part on the number of recipients; as the only recipient this year Mr. Burns-Capuano received a \$1,200 scholarship.

A senior at the University of Connecticut majoring in Communications, upon graduating Burns-Capuano hopes to work in advertising or communications. He eventually hopes to attend graduate school and study "mass mediated messages and their affect on urban youth crime."

As part of the services he provides to the community, Mr. Burns-Capuano helped to organize a sneaker and clothing drive for residents of Haiti. He also volunteers at the Emergency Shelter for the Homeless in New Haven.

Dante Burns-Capuano is the son of Denise L. Burns, a correction officer at the Cheshire Correctional Institution.

The John R. Manson Scholarship Fund was established by friends and colleagues of John Manson, the Commissioner of the Department of Correction from 1971-1982, in memory of his many positive contributions to the field of corrections. The scholarship provides an undergraduate student enrolled at the University of Connecticut, who is a dependent of a Department of Correction employee, with financial assistance. Recipient selection is based not only on scholastic achievement, but also on community service, clear establishment of goals, and any efforts made by the student to offset tuition through part-time employment.



**(L to R): Carolyn Manson, Denise L. Burns, Dante Burns-Capuano, and Deputy Commissioner James Dzurenda.**

---

## A Smarter System from page 1

The administration has also revived a proposal from the Lantz Administration that would provide Earned Risk Reduction Credits to the offender population. Unlike the good time of the past, these sentence reduction credits would have to be earned, based upon behavior and program participation. While the guidelines of exactly how this would work are still being determined, it could be up to five days a month that could be taken off an offender's sentence. Commissioner Arnone saw first hand the abuses of the old good time system, which gave offenders up to half their sentence off the day they walked in the door. He has stressed that no one at Northern CI, nor any inmate who puts a hand on staff would be eligible for any of the new credits. These and other reforms, Commissioner Arnone believes could reduce the agency's population, already at a ten year low, by another 2,000 inmates over the course of the next two or three years. In a recent labor management meeting with NP-4, Commissioner Arnone frankly discussed with the union leadership that he anticipates being able to close another facility this year. While not indicating just yet what facility that would be, he did pledge to proceed slowly and insure that staff would be able to transfer to other facilities nearby as opposed to traveling across the state. Several of the proposals being discussed will require legislative approval and are now being discussed at the capitol.



## Celebrating Black History Month

### Potluck at Osborn CI

There were candied yams, macaroni and cheese and baked beans. There were collard greens, jerk chicken and roast pork. There was even curried goat. And, of course, no one missed the dessert table which was overflowing with cream pies, fruit pies and cakes.

Along with the food, there were plenty of hungry Osborn Correctional Institution staff members waiting to sample all of the offerings. The feast was a tasty part of Osborn CI's celebration of Black History Month on February 22, 2011. The potluck luncheon was organized by Captain Gemini Murray, Lt. Maria Rios, and Officers Alonzo Peggins and Josefina Diaz. "The luncheon was an excellent opportunity to bring staff from several different departments together. Food has always been a great way to share history and culture," said Captain Murray. "The staff enjoyed hearing the special stories behind some of the dishes that staff contributed, such as stories about recipes that were passed down through the generations."



**Officer Josefina Diaz (L) and Captain Gemini Murray serve up lunch at Osborn CI in honor of Black History Month.**

### Dr. Carter Brings Books to Brooklyn CI



**State School Teacher Jean Hansen presents Dr. David Carter with a plaque of appreciation.**

February 14, Valentine's Day was a very befitting day to welcome Dr. David Carter, the beloved Chancellor of the Connecticut State University System and longtime literacy patron of the Brooklyn Correctional Institution. The annual event, coordinated through the education department by State School Teacher Jean Hansen, acknowledged Black History Month and "Dr. Carter's Reading Challenge." The forty-three inmates that attended the event, which focused on the "decisions we make and paths we take," praised Dr. Carter for his unrelenting commitment to the facility, both as a program speaker and literacy contributor.

To date, Dr. Carter has personally donated more than 1,000 books to the facility library. Additionally, nearly 350 more titles were given under his auspices by Eastern Connecticut State University students and Curbstone Press. Over the course of the last ten years of his "challenge" events, more than 650 inmates have heard him speak, and over 4,500 books have been read just by those participating. This year alone, 28 men read 1,210 books.

Regarding the scope of his contributions, Brooklyn CI recognized Dr. Carter by awarding him with a plaque of appreciation for his "Reading Challenge" in support of inmate self-improvement through literacy. Even though Dr. Carter is retired as of March 1, he plans on continuing to support Brooklyn CI's initiatives and returning to speak to the inmates.

## Years Of Service As of February 2011

### Employees With 20 Years of Service

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Bargo, Eddie	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	12/28/1990
Camp, Dennis	Correction Officer	MWCI	12/28/1990
Deanda, Apolinar	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	2/8/1991
Feliciano, Lauren	Deputy Warden	Northern CI	2/8/1991
Garceau, Albert	Correction Officer	Brooklyn CI	2/8/1991
Garris, Janet	Counselor	NHCC	12/7/1990
Gauvin, Gregory	Correction Officer	Bergin CI	2/8/1991
Hanna, Marion	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	7/13/1990
Horne, Reginald	Correction Officer	WCCI	4/20/1990
Kerrigan, Kevin	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	2/8/1991
Lewis, Kathleen	Record Spec. I	Hartford CC	2/8/1991
Shaw, Glenn	Corr. Carpenter	CR CI	2/1/1991
Sullivan, Mark	Corr. Main. Supv.	York CI	2/25/1991
Taylor, Cheryl	Correction Officer	Gates CI	2/8/1991
Walsh, Douglas	Gen. Main. Off.	Northern CI	2/15/1991
Zyjewski, Andrew	Correction Officer	York CI	2/8/1991

### Employees With 25 Years of Service

Carroll, Timothy	Corr. Captain	Northern CI	2/14/1986
Rochon, Mark	Corr. Captain	Osborn CI	1/3/1986

### Employees With 30 Years of Service

Rieve, Michael	Counslnr. Supv.	Cen. Off.	2/9/1981
----------------	-----------------	-----------	----------

## Administrative Professionals Day

### Calling All Clericals

Maloney Center for Training  
and Staff Development Presents

### “Pathway to Success”

April 28th, 2011

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Topics:

Career Progression

Health Myth Busting

Excellence in

Customer Service

Team Building Exercise

Dress for Success Workshop

RSVP

Rochelle Christie-Spann  
via e-mail by April 15th

*First Come First Serve*

We appreciate your support.



Department of Correction - K9 Unit  
invites you to:

**Joey Garlic's**  
**150 Kitts Lane, Newington**  
**Tuesday, April 5th**  
**5:30pm-9:00pm**

Department of Correction Officers will  
wait tables for tips.

All donations go to Special Olympics Connecticut

Employee Assistance Program

1-800-252-4555

Available 24 hours a day - 7 days a week

[www.theEAP.com](http://www.theEAP.com)



## Keepers of the Flame

The Connecticut Law Enforcement Torch Run Committee hosted its annual Kickoff Breakfast at the Farmington Marriott on March 3, and just like last year, the staff of York Correctional Institution was honored for their efforts. The event is an opportunity to acknowledge the accomplishments of the past year, as well as to kickoff the fundraising efforts for this, the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Torch Run. Under the leadership of Warden Kevin Gause and Lieutenant Eric Dessaulles, York CI again garnered the Top Fundraising Facility award for raising an impressive \$22,978 for the cause.

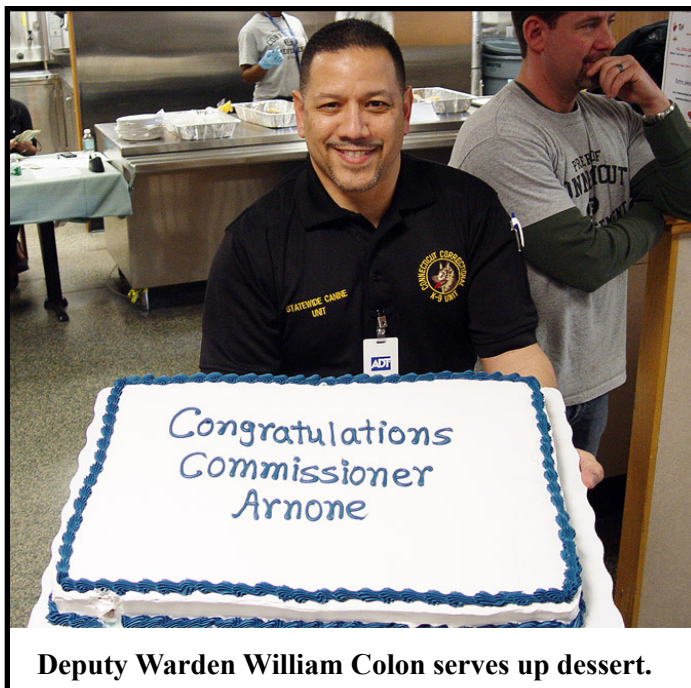
On June 8-10, over 1,500 Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) officers and athletes will run 530 miles through hundreds of cities and towns across Connecticut carrying the Special Olympics “Flame of Hope” into the Opening Ceremonies at the Special Olympic Connecticut Summer Games to be held at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven.

The money raised helps support Special Olympic athletes in their participation in local, regional and state competitions. Last year, the LETR collected more than \$500,000 enabling nearly 6,437 athletes with cognitive disabilities the opportunity to gain confidence and a positive self-image. Celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the LETR began in Connecticut in 1986. The LETR is held in 40 nations, 13 Canadian Provinces and 50 states across the country.



**York CI's Lieutenant Eric Dessaulles (L), and Warden Kevin Gause with Special Olympics athlete Loretta Claiborne.**

## Commissioner's Cookout



**Deputy Warden William Colon serves up dessert.**

A cookout to congratulate Commissioner Leo C. Arnone on his appointment by Governor Dannel P. Malloy was held March 11th at Central Office's Café 24. Proceeds from the event benefited Special Olympics of Connecticut (SOCT). Commissioner Arnone was completely surprised by the event held in his honor; even his wife and daughter, who were in attendance, kept the secret. During a brief presentation, Deputy Commissioner James Dzurenda presented Commissioner Arnone with a commemorative plaque.

The cookout was a huge success, with a total of \$884 raised. Congratulations to Donna Pantin-Worrell from the MCTSD who won the 50/50 raffle and donated \$40 to SOCT. Special thanks to Grill Masters Tag Team of Captains Dennis Roche and Joseph Carlone, as well as all the SOCT Committee members and volunteers who organized the event and manned the tables.

## Military Recognition at Osborn CI



Officer Marcos Baptista



Officer Scott Cunningham

On Friday, March 4, Correction Officers Marcos Baptista and Scott Cunningham, both from the Osborn Correctional Institution were recognized by their peers and presented with plaques for their service in the Connecticut National Guard. Officer Cunningham is an 11 year veteran of the Department of Correction, while officer Baptista has been with the Department for almost three years. Both officers served in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan from

## UConn Bound

Officers from the Cheshire Correctional Institution, accompanied by State School Teacher Mike Bald recently delivered the newly revised women's basketball sign which reflects their recent National Championships and the nation's longest winning streak. Bald, along with students from the facility's sign making shop created the original, as well as the revised signs.



## Bergin CI Facility Awards

A ceremony and luncheon was held on February 18, 2011 to honor and acknowledge Bergin Correctional Institution's Facility Awards Recipients for 2010. Please join Warden Rinaldi and the Bergin Awards Committee Members in congratulating the following staff:

**Correction Officer of the Year – 1<sup>st</sup> shift – CO Lucius Miles**  
**Correction Officer of the Year – 2<sup>nd</sup> shift – CO John Morin**  
**Correction Officer of the Year – 3<sup>rd</sup> shift – CO Brian Davis**  
**Maintenance Employee of the Year – Tom Houle CE**  
**Food Service Employee of the Year – Charles Brewer FSSII**  
**Programs/Treatment Staff of the Year – Sue Calkins CSAC**  
**Clerical Support of the Year – Laura Olsen AA**  
**Operations Supervisor of the Year – Mark Statchen Lt.**  
**Unit of the Year – Religious Services**  
**Programs/Treatment Supervisor of the Year – Pat Kupec CS**  
**Employee of the Year – Sister Mary Healy**  
**Circle of Merit – Bill Schmidt, Recreation Supervisor**  
**Preservation of Life Award – CO Fotis Maheras**



Warden Monica Rinaldi (R) presents the Bergin CI Food Service Employee of the Year Award to FSSII Charles Brewer.



**Det James W. Matthews Sr.**

**NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND FIREFIGHTERS**

**BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

**September 23-25, 2011**

**Hartford, Connecticut**

**[www.jmscholarship.org](http://www.jmscholarship.org)**

**contact James @ 203-518-2895**



**past winners**

**2009 - new York Police Finest 1 (3 Time champs)**

**2008 - new York Police Finest 1**

**2007 - Rhode Island Law Enforcement B. Team**

**2006 - Dallas Police Department**

**2005 - Rhode Island Law Enforcement B. Team**

**2004 - Dallas Police Department**

**2003 - new York corrections boldest 1**

**2002 - new York Police Finest 1**

**2001 - Baltimore Police Department**